

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Teleconference Meeting
December 2, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
IAC Conference Room
100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Jeanne Mirro, Chair

Minutes

Members present via teleconference: Jeanne Mirro, Karen Ellerbrook, Dick Stifel, Earl Williams

Members absent: Irene Smith-King

IAC Staff present: Dennis Hardin

IAC Staff via teleconference: Lewis Ricci

1. Approval of Agenda and September 9, 2009 minutes. Ms. Mirro convened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. Ms. Ellerbrook moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Stifel seconded. Motion passed.

2. Financial. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) showing where the IAC budget for FY2010 can be amended to achieve the additional 5% hold-back mandated by the state budget office. Most of the proposed savings will come via a 4.5% cut in block grants and community arts program grants, and cuts to the administrative budget in the IAC home office. Mr. Ricci asked the committee to recommend approval of the proposed changes in the FY2010 budget to the full commission at its December 11 business meeting. Mr. Williams moved to recommend approval of the proposed changes in the FY2010 IAC budget. Mr. Stifel seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Ricci then presented a handout (attached) showing the FY2010 year-to-date financial statement through October 31, 2009, based on the proposed and recommended changes. Mr. Ricci then led a discussion of the economic outlook for FY2011, which begins July 1, 2010. He does not expect the state budget situation to improve, and thinks that a continued 10% overall reduction is the best scenario that can be hoped for. He emphasized the need to closely examine how administrative costs are managed to provide the most efficient delivery of state funds and services to every county in Indiana. This examination will, of necessity, include an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Regional Arts Partnership in delivering such funding and services, and whether substantial costs could be saved by centralizing grant-making and services within the IAC home office. He reminded the committee that approximately \$400,000 of the IAC budget goes to covering administrative costs at the Regional Partner level. The committee discussed how the Regional Partners might still be involved in a reduced role. A retreat for the Regional Arts Partners is scheduled for February 3 – 4, 2010 which will provide an opportunity for a full discussion of options for the future in a shrinking economy. Mr. Stifel, chair of the Committee on the Future, feels that it is the responsibility of the COF to take the lead on behalf of the

commission to examine all of the viable options and provide information to the full commission. He called for a special session of the COF to be held in Indianapolis on January 26, 2010 for this specific purpose. Mr. Ricci agreed to provide a range of scenarios and a spectrum of strategies for coping with anticipated cuts in the FY2011 budget. Ms. Mirro will include a discussion of the FY2011 budget on the agenda for the December 11, 2009 quarterly meeting of the full commission.

Ms. Mirro requested that the committee proceed to agenda item #4.

4. Partner Review Status. Mr. Ricci reviewed that the Committee on the Future, at its latest meeting, voted to recommend to the full commission that the Bloomington Area Arts Council and the Arts Council of Southern Indiana not be invited to apply for status as a Regional Arts Partner for FY2011, as a result of independent reviews done of their organizations. Their activities as current Regional Arts Partners have been suspended pending further action of the commission. Mr. Stifel moved that, based on the findings of the independent review of the Bloomington Area Arts Council and subsequent site visits by IAC staff and commissioners, the Executive Committee recommends to the full commission that the Bloomington Area Arts Council not be invited to apply for continued status as a Regional Arts Partner. Mr. Williams seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Williams moved that, based on the findings of the independent review of the Arts Council of Southern Indiana and subsequent site visits by IAC staff and commissioners, the Executive Committee recommends to the full commission that the Arts Council of Southern Indiana not be invited to apply for continued status as a Regional Arts Partner. Mr. Stifel seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Ricci then presented print-outs (attached) of in-progress independent reviews of Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne and the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana. These reviews were automatically triggered as a result of low scores in the most recent panel review of applications for Regional Arts Partner grants. At the next meeting of the full commission, Mr. Ricci will ask the commission to empower the Executive Committee to act upon the completed reviews of these two organizations, once the financial reviews are completed in January 2010.

Ms. Mirro returned to agenda item #3.

3. Personnel Issues. Mr. Hardin was excused from the meeting while the committee discussed confidential matters involving personnel.

5. Technical Assistance Update. Mr. Ricci reported on progress in planning two workshops for arts organizations, to be held in Indianapolis in the spring of 2010. The first workshop is being prepared by ArtsLab, and will be a two-day meeting focused on organizational issues such as leadership, financial management, and community engagement. The second workshop will focus primarily on fundraising, and will be presented by the Center on Philanthropy at IUPUI. Funding for the workshops will come from monies previously allocated to Capacity Building grants, with assistance from Arts Midwest. Dates for the workshops have not been finalized. Ms. Mirro remarked that such workshops are a positive step to encourage, educate and empower small-to-mid-size arts organizations

6. **Nominations Update.** Ms. Mirro reminded the committee of the newest commissioner to be named by the Governor – Linda Goad of Carmel. Linda will be having her orientation meeting soon and will be in attendance at the next meeting of the full commission on December 11. There has been no further word from the Governor's office about filling the seat currently held by Sandi Clark of Bloomington, whose second term as commissioner expired in June 2009. Commissioner Irene Smith-King will complete her second term in June 2010. Ms. Mirro encouraged everyone to continue the search for viable candidates to fill vacancies on the commission.

7. **Governor's Office Issues.** Ms. Mirro reported on a recent IAC request to the governor's office, asking him to make a public comment on the national Accessibility Leadership Award which came to the Indiana Arts Commission in a national competition. A representative of the Governor's office declined any comment on the award.

8. **Old Business.** Mr. Stifel offered congratulations to IAC staff members Kristina Davis and Lewis Ricci, who were responsible for the grant application which resulted in the Accessibility Leadership Award. Mr. Ricci reported that invitations have been sent to prospective members of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, as requested by the Committee on the Future.

9. **New Business.** Mr. Williams, chair of the Program Evaluation Committee, reported that the PEC has recommended three entities for recognition as Cultural Districts – City of Bloomington, Carmel Redevelopment Commission, and Tippecanoe Arts Federation. Mr. Williams moved that the Executive Committee recommend to the full commission that City of Bloomington, Carmel Redevelopment Commission, and Tippecanoe Arts Federation be approved for Cultural District status. Mr. Stifel seconded. Motion passed.

10. **Adjourn.** Mr. Stifel moved to adjourn. Ms. Ellerbrook seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.